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Docket No.: SHZ-024USRCE
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Motoyuki Ashikari *et al.*

Application No.: 10/534,593

Confirmation No.: 7806

Filed: October 31, 2005

Art Unit: 1638

For: **GENES FOR INCREASING GRAIN YIELD
AND USES THEREOF (as Amended)**

Examiner: P. T. Bui

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.114
TO ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed November 27, 2007 in respect of the above-reference patent application. A Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 CFR §1.114 and request for the appropriate extension of time are being filed concurrently with this amendment. Please amend the patent application as set forth below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.